

Demolition of Bexley in final stages of the approval process

Demolition is tentatively scheduled for mid-June; public park space to be constructed in Bexley's place

By Patricia Z. Dominguez
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Since Bexley Hall was closed at the end of the spring 2013 semester, MIT has been working on plans to demolish the building and replace the student housing it once provided.

Last week, the Cambridge Historical Commission officially approved MIT's request to demolish Bexley Hall, a development first reported

by the *Cambridge Day*. The request was made following the approvals of both the Building Committee and the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation to proceed with Bexley's demolition upon the recommendation of the Department of Facilities.

The decision to tear down the dormitory came after MIT was "advised that the cost to renovate/repair Bexley would be approximately the same magnitude as building a replacement

facility of the same size," according to the proposal submitted to the commission.

The demolition is expected to take place as soon as possible after this year's Commencement, following the approval of a permit from the city of Cambridge. Immediately after the demolition, construction of a new, likely temporary park space



This is the current conceptual design created by Studio 2112 Landscape Architecture in collaboration with MIT students and administrators.
Bexley, Page 3

MIT says it removed Lewin videos for fear of continued harassment

Provost, physics head elaborate on justification for sudden takedown of course materials from OpenCourseWare, edX

By Leon Lin
NEWS EDITOR

When MIT removed Walter Lewin's physics lectures from OpenCourseWare and edX last month, it was seeking to prevent future sexual harassment, MIT officials said in an interview on Monday.

"We removed the courses because we felt they presented a [real] danger to people who would see them and contact [former] Professor Lewin, expecting a student-teacher relationship and getting something that was inappropriate," said Professor Peter H. Fisher, the physics department head and coordinator of the MIT investigation that led to Lewin's fall from grace.

It came as a surprise to most last month when MIT cut ties with Lewin after finding that at least one student had been sexually harassed online by the retired professor whose teaching style and Internet fanbase once landed him on the front page of *The New York Times*.

But it was perhaps the removal of course materials that attracted more controversy.

"Probably the predominant question of the people that approached me," Provost Martin A. Schmidt PhD '88 said, was whether it was necessary for MIT to take down Lewin's introductory physics courses — on mechanics, electricity and magnetism, and vibrations and waves — from its own OpenCourseWare site.

According to Schmidt, senior administrators and "about a dozen" senior faculty members reviewed the details of the case and discussed what MIT should do.

"The conclusion of all that was that this collective group, I think, with near unanimity agreed that the actions we took were the appropriate actions," said Schmidt, who called the decision "painful."

The complainant who triggered the investigation last year had also provided information about Lewin's interactions with other women, according to MIT.

"To us it just sort of indicated

Lewin, Page 10

Institute a possible host of fencing, archery in the 2024 Olympic Games

MIT faculty and student involvement in Olympic bid encouraged

By Alexandra Delmore
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT is being considered as a possible venue for hosting sporting events during the 2024 Summer Olympic Games, which the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) announced Thursday would be held in Boston if the United States is chosen to be the host country.

MIT Executive Vice President and Treasurer Israel Ruiz SM '01 serves as one of four co-chairs of the Boston 2024 College and University

Engagement Committee, which is working on incorporating universities in Massachusetts into Boston's 2024 Olympic Plan. "I hope we can coordinate within MIT to understand what opportunities this could bring," said Ruiz in an interview with *The Tech*.

Boston 2024, the group planning Boston's Olympic bid, is considering MIT as a possible host for archery and fencing competitions. MIT has offered Killian Court as a venue for archery, as well as Briggs Field and Rockwell Cage as potential venues

for other athletic events. Ruiz said that Boston 2024 is "looking for venues that are representative of Boston, Cambridge, and surrounding communities," and that they are "looking for some sort of an emblematic venue."

According to an article in the Boston Globe, Olympic planners are considering several other universities as potential venues, including Harvard for field hockey; Boston University for basketball, rugby, and

2024 Olympics, Page 3



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA

Former Massachusetts governor Deval Patrick will be regularly appearing on campus this spring in his new role as innovation fellow for the MIT Innovation Initiative.

SOMERSAULTS FOR SCIENCE

12.097 teaches scientific expression through dance.
ARTS, p. 6

HOW TO ROB A BANK

A former MIT lecturer robs a bank in the name of art ... and money. NEWS, p. 10

EBOLA RESEARCH

2014 virus exhibits over 300 changes from predecessors. NEWS, p. 11



NEW YEAR CLEANING

MIT's Science Fiction Society reorganizes its extensive book collection.
PHOTO SPREAD, p. 7

TOO COLD FOR TIM

Good luck with the Mystery Hunt this weekend! FUN, p. 5

SECTIONS

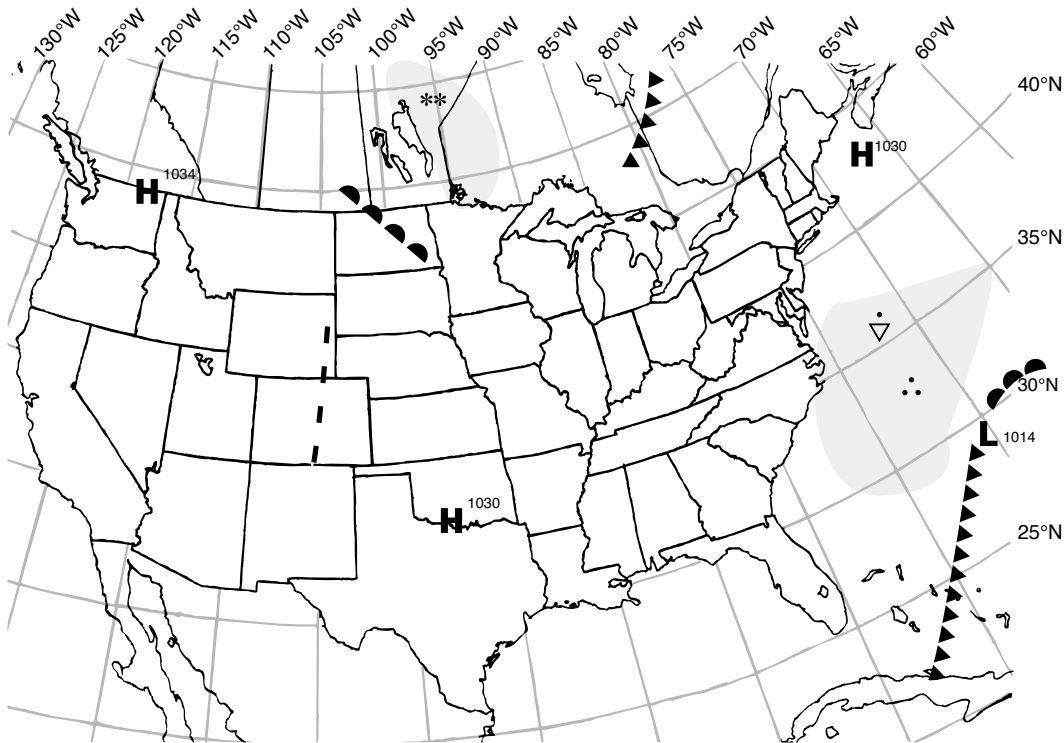
Weather.2
Opinion.4
Fun Pages.5
Arts.6

Cold air and (mostly) clear skies















The rest of this week promises to be very cold. With high pressure as the norm throughout the end of the week, the skies should remain relatively clear, and along with cold northerly winds, allow the temperatures to get well below freezing each night. On Friday night, a passing low to the north will bring down cold northern air and result in temperatures dropping into the single digits (°F). After this morning, the chance of snow will be very low until the end of the weekend.

Overnight lows in the low 20s (°F) fall right along the average for days in January, but sometimes the region gets particularly unlucky: in January of 1946, the weather gods must have been angry, because there was an (almost literally) unbelievable run of 12 straight days with lows ranging from -3°F on the first and warmest night to -30°F at the worst. Maybe it's a good thing that we've put an end to nonsense like that.

Today: Partly cloudy, high of 30°F, wind N at 10 mph.
Tonight: Clear, low of 20°F, wind N at 10 mph.
Tomorrow: Clear, high of 32°F, wind NW shifting to SW at 10 mph.
Friday: Partly cloudy, high around 32°F, wind NW up to 20 mph. Low below 10°F overnight.
Saturday: Clear, high around 30°F.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Wednesday, January 14, 2015

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	 Trough	<div> <div>Snow</div> <div>Rain</div> </div>	<div> <div> Fog</div> <div> Thunderstorm</div> <div> Haze</div> </div>
L Low Pressure	 Warm Front	<div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	
 Hurricane	 Cold Front	<div> <div>Light</div> <div>Moderate</div> <div>Heavy</div> </div>	
	 Stationary Front	<div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	<div> <div>Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and <i>The Tech</i></div> </div>

Solution to Irish Tour

from page 9

A	S	P	E	N		S	T	A	B	S		J	A	M
A	L	O	N	E		C	O	L	O	N		O	R	E
H	O	L	D	T	H	E	M	A	Y	O		H	I	S
S	E	S	S	I	O	N					C	A	N	E
						Z	E	T	A		S	A	C	F
Z	A	P	P	E	D		T	S	K		T	S	K	
A	D	O	R	N		T	H	A	I	S		E	B	B
N	A	P	S		D	I	E	T	S		B	R	I	E
E	M	T			G	A	L	A	S		F	O	R	T
					H	O	O	F	E	R		S	A	W
O	C	E	L	O	T		T	H	A	N				
F	A	C	E	D						E	N	M	A	S
A	D	O			J	A	M	E	S		G	A	L	W
G	R	R			O	P	A	L	S		I	M	A	G
E	E	K			B	R	O	K	E		L	A	N	E

Solution to Sudoku II

from page 8

3	7	9	4	6	2	5	1	8
8	6	2	1	5	7	4	9	3
4	1	5	3	8	9	2	7	6
7	5	1	2	3	6	9	8	4
9	8	3	5	7	4	1	6	2
6	2	4	8	9	1	7	3	5
2	3	6	7	1	5	8	4	9
1	4	8	9	2	3	6	5	7
5	9	7	6	4	8	3	2	1

Solution to Techdoku II

from page 8

2	1	3	4	5	6
3	2	4	5	6	1
1	6	2	3	4	5
6	5	1	2	3	4
4	3	5	6	1	2
5	4	6	1	2	3

Solution to Sudoku

from page 8

1	4	2	5	9	7	6	3	8
6	5	7	3	1	8	4	9	2
9	3	8	2	6	4	1	7	5
3	8	1	7	4	9	5	2	6
4	7	5	8	2	6	9	1	3
2	6	9	1	3	5	8	4	7
5	1	3	9	8	2	7	6	4
8	9	4	6	7	3	2	5	1
7	2	6	4	5	1	3	8	9

Solution to Techdoku I

from page 8

6	5	3	2	4	1
5	4	2	1	3	6
3	2	6	5	1	4
1	6	4	3	5	2
2	1	5	4	6	3
4	3	1	6	2	5

from page 8

A	M	S	T	E	R	D	A	M	V	I	S	A	
R	A	I	N	G	A	U	G	E	O	R	A	L	B
A	D	D	T	O	C	A	R	T	T	A	M	M	
B	E	E		E	L	O	I	S	E	M	A	R	
S	A	S	S			U	M	P	S		A	M	I
			H	O	C	K	N	E		F	L	A	G
C	O	S	I	G	N	E	D		B	R	O	T	H
O	P	I	N	I	N	G		C	O	R	O	N	E
M	I	L	E			D	O	W	A	G	E	R	S
M	O	E	S		P	F	E	N	N	I	G		
A	N	N		O	D	I	N		D	Y	E	R	S
N	E	T		I	Q	T	E	S			L	E	O
D	E	C	A	L		S	U	P	E	R	F	U	N
O	R	A	T	E		I	V	E	N	O	I	D	E
	S	L	E	D		N	E	W	S	C	R	E	W

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```
from new_skills import *  
  
def learnMarketableJobSkills():  
    return linux, OSX, javascript, applescript, perl, python, PHP  
  
if self.interest == True:  
    print "E-mail join@tech.mit.edu"
```

```
----:----F1 joinTechno.py      (Python)--L1--Top
```


MIT takes measures to expedite park construction

No definitive plans for long-term use of the Bexley site or additional housing yet in place

Bexley, from Page 1

will begin on the site of the dorm, according to MIT Executive Vice President and Treasurer Israel Ruiz SM '01, the chairman of the Building Committee.

In an interview with *The Tech*, Ruiz added that “the demolition and the park space construction will most likely be coordinated by the same contractor, in order to speed up the proceedings.”

The idea and design for the park space was developed by a committee of MIT students working with a landscape architect as well as several administrators from the Department of Facilities and the Department of Student Life (DSL).

Thayer Donham, a Senior Campus Planner in Facilities who is working closely with the committee, said in an interview with *The Tech* that the current conceptual design for the park space includes walkways, seating, lighting, accommodations for tour buses, and bike racks.

Students and faculty will be able to use the open space to showcase their work. Art exhibits and student activities held there will be coordinated through the office of the Chancellor.

Should the demolition progress smoothly, the construction of the park space is estimated to be completed by November. Landscapers will then begin planting trees the following spring.

The construction of the park is estimated to be completed by November.

After Bexley closed in 2013, dorms identified additional spaces in order to house a larger number of students and MIT reduced the freshman class size by 60. Since the closing, the Delta Upsilon and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternities were

suspended, which Ruiz said added to the 100-bed shortage left by Bexley.

The West Campus Planning Study, part of the MIT 2030 building plan also responsible for the ongoing East Campus/Kendall Gateway project, will address these housing issues and the long-term fate of the Bexley lot on a larger scale. Ruiz said that the project will holistically evaluate the buildings and facilities in west campus, including dormitories, Kresge Auditorium, the MIT Chapel, and the athletic facilities.

Graduate housing will also be considered in planning; the initiative will oversee renovations to Sidney-Pacific that will displace

around 370 graduate students over the next year and a half.

The funding plan for the West Campus Planning Study, as well as the other projects that are currently under the MIT 2030 framework, will be split into two parts: debt-funding will provide the capital for half of the projects, while the other half will be supported by a fundraising campaign led by Eric Grimson PhD '80.

It has yet to be determined when a new dormitory will be built. As for the housing problem, “the MIT administration and the [Bexley space] student committee is working towards a longer-term investment, which will hopefully be definitive by the end of term,” said Ruiz.

Briggs Field and Rockwell Cage potential venues for 2024 Olympic competitions

Boston transportation improvements necessary if city is to host Games

2024 Olympics, from Page 1

field hockey; and UMASS Boston for the Olympic Village. Other proposed venues include Boston Harbor for sailing, Boston Common for beach volleyball, and TD Garden for basketball.

Ruiz notes that plans for security and crowd accommodation for events hosted by MIT will be a collaborative effort between Olympic planners and MIT: “MIT would have a major say in the security,” Ruiz said.

Ruiz is hoping to broaden MIT’s involvement in the Olympic planning process by involving faculty and students who are interested in planning for and potentially devel-

oping technology for the Olympic Games. Part of this involvement is already being discussed: Professor Carlo Ratti in MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning aims to work with Boston 2024 to propose infrastructure improvements that could enable all venues to be accessible by walking or by public transportation. According to Ruiz, one of the main appeals of the Boston area as a venue for the Olympics is the closeness of all of the different sporting venues.

Ruiz said that the transportation upgrades in the area would be one of the ways that the Olympics would benefit the MIT community. According to Ruiz, increased capacity on the Red Line would be among these upgrades. Additionally, the Boston Globe wrote that constructing additional platforms at South Station, which has been a proposed project for a decade, as well as a new Commuter Rail Station in Allston might be among other transportation improvements.

Transportation upgrades are “another element in which [the MIT community] will also participate: there is faculty interest in shaping how transportation gets improved,” Ruiz said.

USOC chose Boston as the US’s bid among four applicant cities, but in order for Boston to actually host the Olympics, the International Olympic Committee must choose it from among other countries’ bids, of which only Italy’s bid, Rome, has

been finalized. The process of selecting the host city is a two-and-a-half-year process, which gives the selected city seven years to prepare.

Ruiz seeks to be transparent about MIT’s role in the selection process as it unfolds in the coming years, as well as engage the MIT community in the effort to optimize Boston’s bid, and if chosen, host the Olympic Games. Though it is too early to know the details of the process that will take place between now and 2017, Ruiz said that “we will maintain engagement and dialogue as the process unfolds.” Ruiz hopes to bring a sense of “excitement and community about what the Olympic movement means in the context of an educational setting like ours.”



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Solution to Mega Techdoku

from page 9

6	2	7	5	9	8	4	1	3
5	1	6	4	8	7	3	9	2
2	7	3	1	5	4	9	6	8
3	8	4	2	6	5	1	7	9
9	5	1	8	3	2	7	4	6
7	3	8	6	1	9	5	2	4
8	4	9	7	2	1	6	3	5
1	6	2	9	4	3	8	5	7
4	9	5	3	7	6	2	8	1

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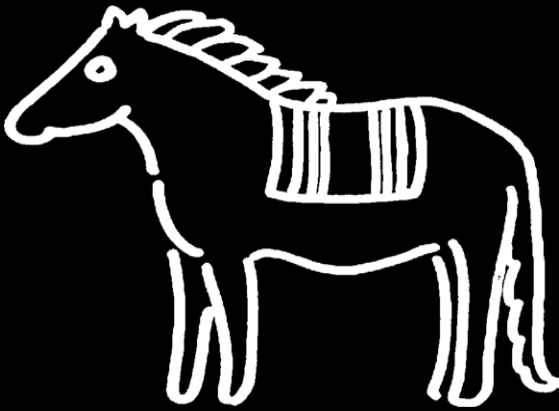
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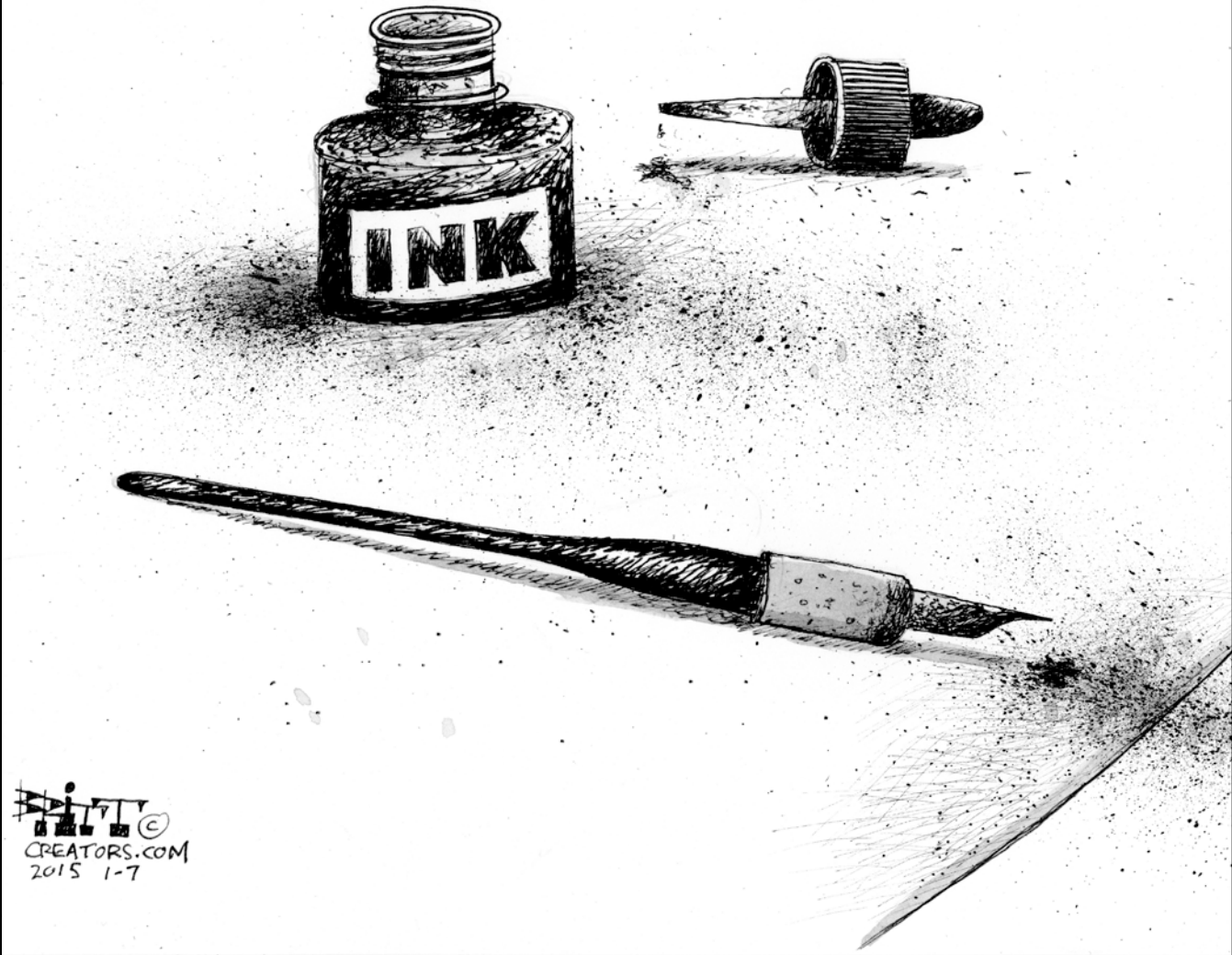
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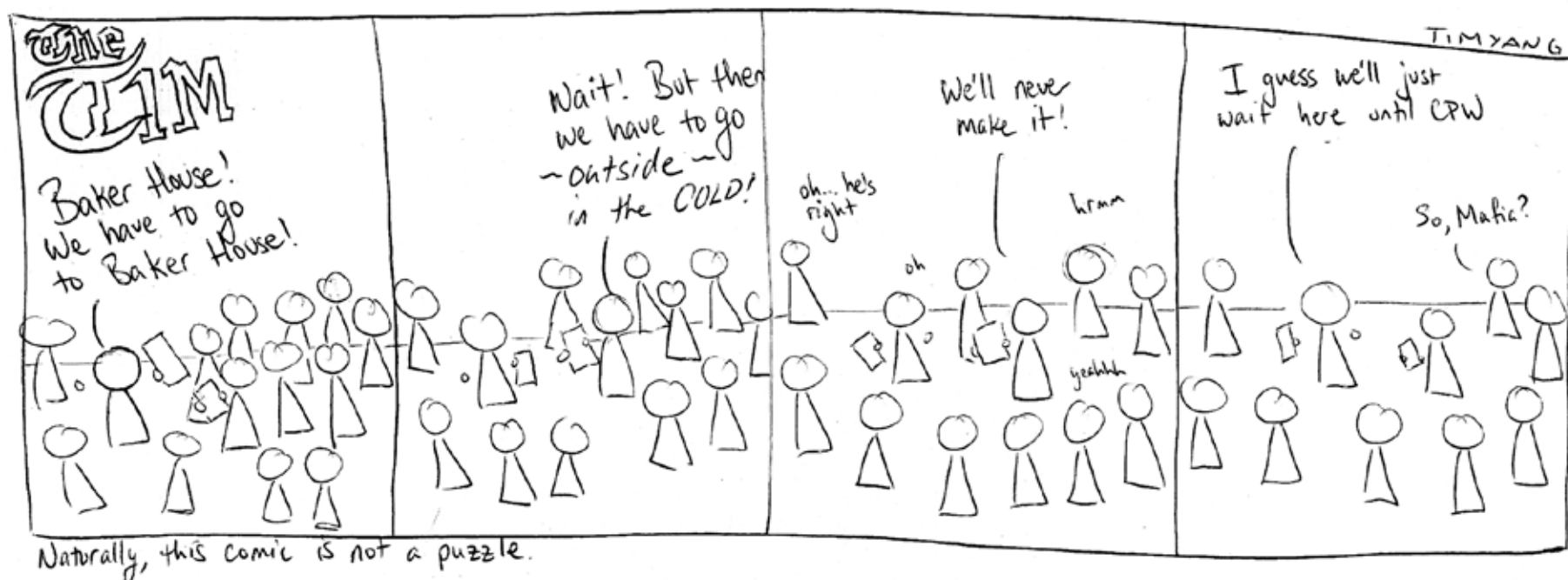
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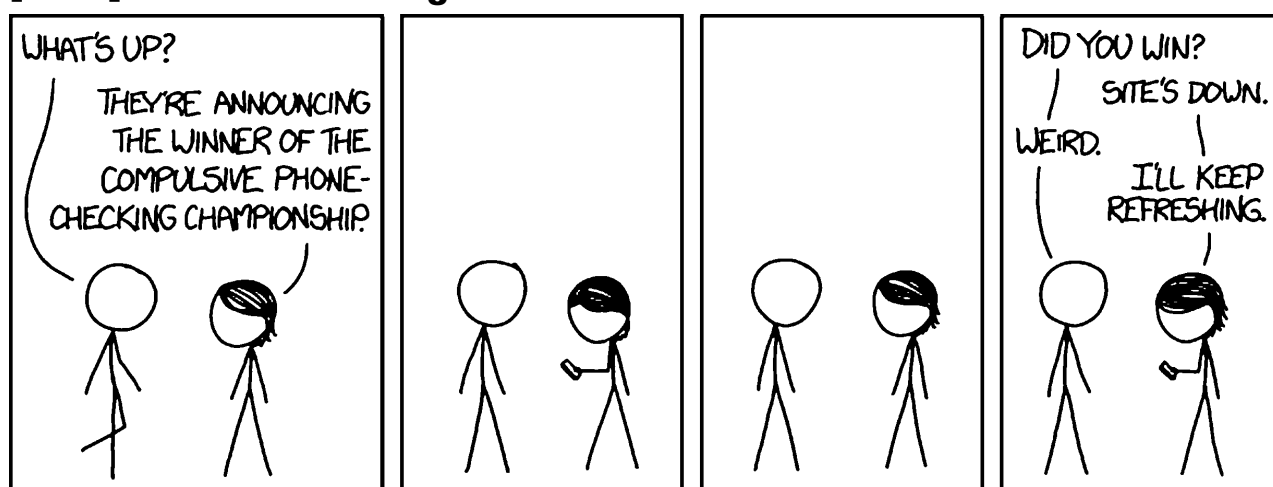
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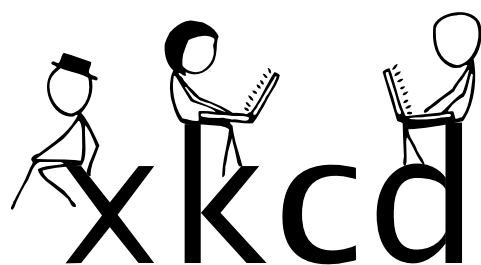
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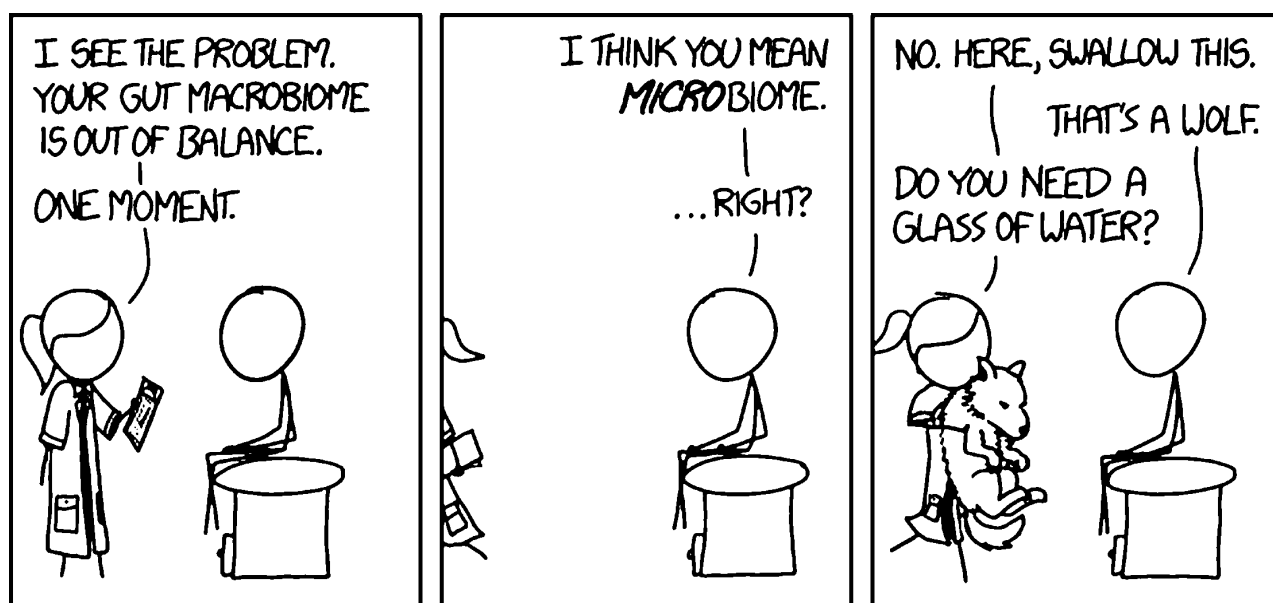


'Where were you when you learned you'd won?' 'I was actually asleep; I woke up when I refreshed the website and saw the news;



**A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE,
SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE**
by Randall Munroe

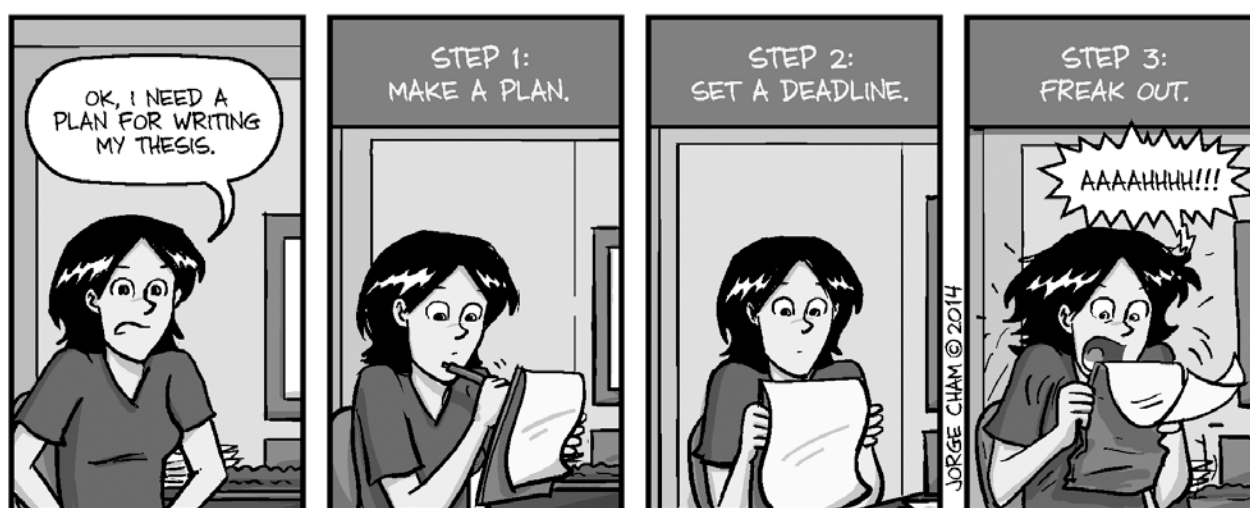
[1471] Gut Fauna



I know it seems unpleasant, but of the two ways we typically transfer them, I promise this is the one you want.



by Jorge Cham



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Science through dance

By Davie Rolnick
STAFF WRITER

Science, Dance and the Creative Process (12.097) aims to teach scientific expression through dance and choreography. The course was invented last fall by Mariah Steele, director of Quicksilver Dance, and Professors Raffaele Ferrari and Larry Pratt (Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Studies). Lectures by distinguished researchers alternated with rehearsals and lessons in dance composition. "Whatever we learned on Monday, we made dances about on Wednesday," said Steele. All that hard work

Even students who had never danced before moved with grace and confidence.

Steele explained four different approaches to connecting science with dance: Model, Essence, Inspiration, and Brainstorming. "Modeling transcribes actions found in na-

The class did not require prior dance training, and proved to be a learning experience for novice and veteran dancers alike. In the final performance, even students who had never danced before moved with grace and confidence. For some more experienced students, it had come as a surprise to find scientific principles informing their choreography. As Minerva Zhou '16 observed, it was like "moving outside of the box."

Yun William Yu G plans to enter “Dance Your PhD,” a popular contest for PhD students that is exactly what the name suggests. He studies data compression, trying to find a balance between too little com-

Steele hopes that students in this course will learn modes of expression that will serve them well, and also be able to relate to their scientific work at a new level. "It's just another way of expressing — like a graph," said Camille Henrot '16. "Maybe when I can't sit still in my chair, things will come out of that."

The instructors of 12.097 hope to offer the course again next fall.

A snowman stands in a snowy field, wearing a black cap with 'Pitt' on it, sunglasses, and a red and black plaid scarf. In the background is the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning, a large building with a prominent dome and many columns. The image is framed by a white border with a grey triangle in the bottom right corner.

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1

MITSFS reorganizes library once again

By Omari Stephens

1. Two years after a similar undertaking in 2013, the MIT Science Fiction Society (MITSFS) closed this past weekend to perform another phase of reorganization. The overarching goal was to make books easier to find in the library.

2. Benjam J. Kaduk G disassembles a bookshelf that was no longer needed.

3. Yelena Tsitkin '06, Jennifer Chung '02, D.W. Rowlands G, and Laura A. McKnight '15 work together to add custom-sized protective covers to the dust-covers of books before they are shelved. The hardcover books had been sitting in boxes until more space could be made.

4. Monday evening found the reopened library in this state. The now-contiguous paperback section extends off to the right, and the taller-spaced shelves of comics, magazines, and references occupy the area to the left. Over 300 books were added to the circulating collection, and around 100 went back into boxes.

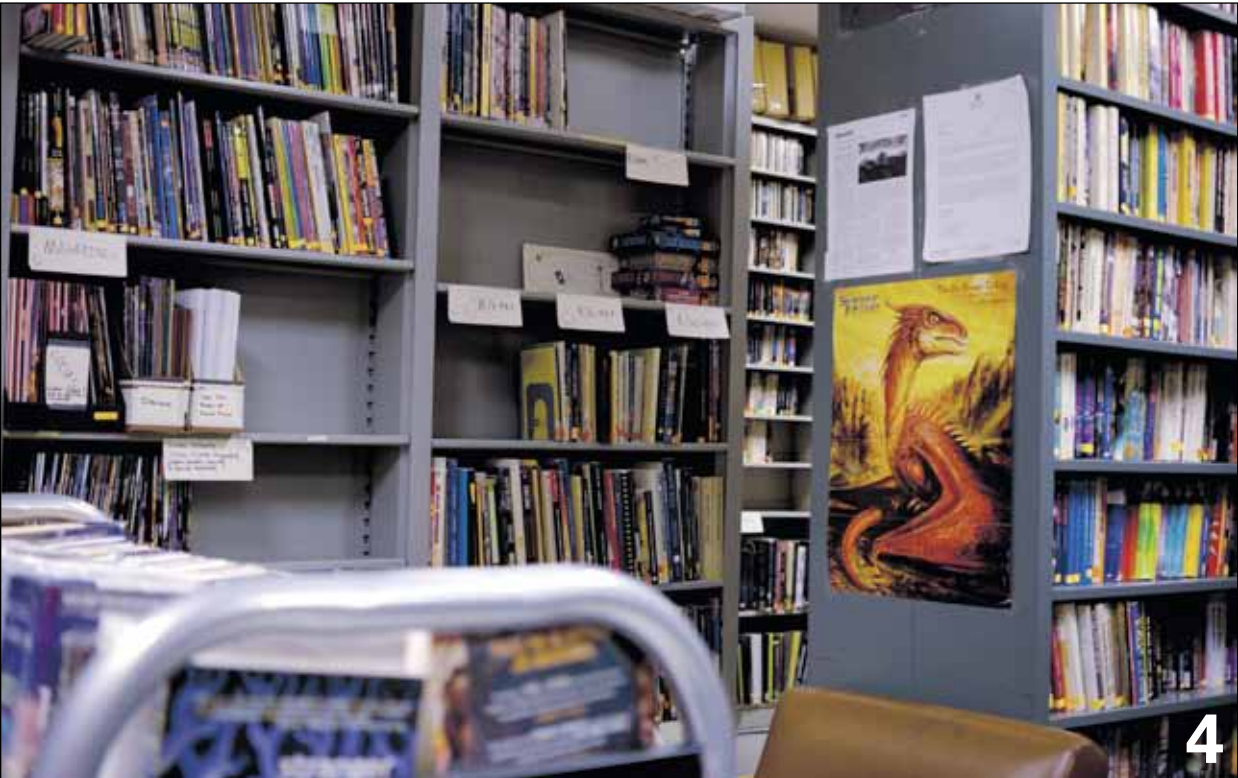
5. As part of an effort to consolidate the paperback section, James K. Hobin '16 re-shelves an armful of books. It is estimated that MITSFS circulates around 46,000 books, not including the 4,000 reserve books which can be read in the library.



2



3



4



5

Sudoku I

Solution, page 2

1		2	5		7	6		
6		7	3	1			9	
				6				
3	8						2	
		5				9		
	6						4	7
				8				
	9			7	3	2		1
		6	4		1	3		9

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Sudoku II

Solution, page 2

					2	5		8
	6	2		5				
4	1	5	3		9			
7	5							
		3	5		4	1		
							3	5
			7		5	8	4	9
				2		6	5	
5		7	6					

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Techdoku I

Solution, page 2

30x	480x				1
		180x			6
36x				8x	
		360x			
8x		20x			3
	3		4-		5

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Techdoku II

Solution, page 2

6x			100x		6
1-		2-		24x	1
6x			1-		5
150x				6x	2-
11+			5-		
5		6			3

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Saturday Stumper

by Anna Stigal

Solution, page 2

ACROSS

- 1 “Venice of the North”
- 10 Dow Jones Industrials financial stock
- 14 Pluviometer
- 15 Maker of the first interactive toothbrush
- 17 Button often seen with a “+”
- 18 Country Music Hall of Fame inductee the same year as Elvis
- 19 Band leader
- 20 Hinton’s middle name
- 22 Take away from
- 23 ‘90s teen-girl mag
- 26 Nine Cooperstown members
- 27 Opposite of adversaire
- 28 Big name in British pop art
- 31 Fall off
- 32 Backed up for an advance
- 35 Stock product
- 36 Reckoning
- 37 Coat-of-arms depiction
- 39 GPS display
- 40 Peers of Countess Violet

- Crawley
- 41 Chipotle competitor
- 42 Coin succeeded by a cent
- 44 Druyan who cowrote Cosmos
- 45 Saga VIP
- 46 Some mill staff
- 50 Cargo holder of a sort
- 51 “Smarter than you think” website
- 54 Constellation representing an Herculean adversary
- 55 Type of transfer
- 57 Environmental program since 1980
- 60 Preach, perhaps
- 61 Upturned-palms equivalent
- 62 Recreational vehicle
- 63 Riders in satellite trucks

DOWN

- 1 About 450 million people
- 2 Perry persona in eight films
- 3 Phases
- 4 PGA Championship broadcaster
- 5 It represents reason and

- sanity
- 6 Sack __
- 7 Minimally multiple
- 8 Stranded, in a way
- 9 Stress-reduction period
- 10 House calls
- 11 IRS Publication 590 subject
- 12 Comedy lead-actor Emmy role for ‘90 and ‘93
- 13 Reunion rendition
- 16 In a perfect world
- 21 Keep watch
- 24 Really shows off
- 25 Certain school teachers
- 29 Something to watch at SFO and JFK
- 30 Bud holder
- 31 A little hoarse
- 32 Schwarzenegger blockbuster film of ‘85
- 33 Chronicle of the Bergsons in rural Nebraska
- 34 Presidential nickname
- 35 Rope feature favored by rock climbers
- 37 __ game
- 38 Personal

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- 40 ‘70s Chanel spokesperson
- 42 Fast
- 43 Assimilates
- 45 No longer noisy, perhaps
- 47 Dodge
- 48 Freshen up
- 49 Picnic supplies
- 52 Vituperate
- 53 Jackson fractions
- 56 Used up
- 58 Elephant predator, per Marco Polo
- 59 Oregon license-plate depiction

Former MIT lecturer robs bank

Former lecturer Joseph Gibbons, who taught in MIT’s Art, Culture, and Technology (ACT) program from 2002 to 2010, was arrested last Thursday after robbing a bank and recording the experience with a pink-and-silver video camera for a film project. Gibbons approached a teller at a Capital One branch in New York’s Bowery with a note that read, “This is a robbery. Large bills. No dye packs/ No GPS,” and fled after taking roughly \$1000, according to press reports.

Gibbons is wanted for a similar heist in Rhode Island, where he told the teller that it was “for the church.” He was held on \$50,000 cash bail for the New York heist, with a pretrial hearing

scheduled for April 14, according to the *Boston Herald*.

Gibbons told the *New York Post* that he draws inspiration from French poet Arthur Rimbaud, who “believed a poet had to descend into the depths of all that was bad and report back,” saying that his actions have been “one long project about discovering the disenfranchised portions of society.”

He also told the *Post*, “What got me over the final hurdle was the desperation of not having any money and not having a place to stay, not having anything to eat, that’s what gave me the final desperation to do it.”

Joe Zane, also a former MIT ACT lecturer who worked along-

side Gibbons, described him as “very eccentric” but “extremely smart” and believes that Gibbons was “just trying to get some good footage,” as reported in the *Herald*.

Gibbons has received several awards and fellowships from arts foundations including the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation, and his works have been displayed at a variety of museums and shows such as the Museum of Modern Art and the Rotterdam Film Festival. He focuses on creative film and video that is “rooted in autobiography,” according to his profile, which is currently available on the ACT website.

—Sanjana Srivastava

Aaronson opposes removing courses
Physics department head defends decision to remove Lewin’s videos

Lewin, from Page 1

that, you know, there’s multiple examples of this kind of behavior, and I think looking at all that information led us to be concerned with the content up there,” Schmidt said. “There was the potential for continued harassment.”

“There’s been some comments — ‘Well, this is just a situation of someone making an inappropriate comment, and is MIT overreacting?’” Schmidt added. “I think our actions are reflective of the seriousness.”

Fisher said Lewin’s behavior spanned “a long period of time” and that it couldn’t have been an accident.

In the interview with *The Tech*, MIT officials continued to avoid discussing details of the case, citing privacy concerns. Schmidt also declined to say whether law enforcement was involved, though he did say MIT had brought in an “external expert” during the investigation.

Professor Krishna Rajagopal, who interviewed Lewin during the investigation, said: “What’s so difficult about this is that [Lewin’s online] courses were sort of the MIT physics department’s first step into this new mode of learning. And their content is something that we’re proud of.”

But, Rajagopal continued, “the decision was that to reduce the risk [that others would be harassed], MIT had no choice.”

“MIT provides a theater, provides a stage ... and Walter Lewin’s courses were performances on that stage. And the fact that students were contacting him ... it was our judgment that a part of that was [because the] performance was on MIT’s stage.”

Fisher said Lewin’s behavior spanned a “long period of time” and that it couldn’t have been an accident.

Professor Scott Aaronson was among those who questioned the removal of courses from OpenCourseWare. He wrote on his blog:

“By all means, punish Prof. Lewin as harshly as he deserves, but — as students have been pleading on Reddit, in the MIT Tech comments section, and elsewhere — don’t also punish the countless students of both sexes who continue to benefit from his work. (For godsakes, I’d regard taking down the lectures as a tough call if Prof. Lewin had gone on a murder spree.) Do-

ing this sends the wrong message about MIT’s values, and is a gift to those who like to compare modern American college campuses to the Soviet Union.”

Lewin’s lectures continue to be available from other sources, Nickerson said.

Nate Nickerson, an MIT spokesman, pointed out that Lewin’s lectures continue to be available from other sources. “Taking it off MIT’s properties makes it no less accessible,” he said.

Fisher, the physics department head, said that he didn’t buy the argument that Lewin’s work, like that of flawed figures of centuries past, deserves to stay up on its own merits.

“Certainly there are famous painters and sculptors and writers who produce great works and then in various ways have been found to be repellent human beings in other aspects of their lives, but their work is still appreciated.”

“The separation of the artist from the art,” however, “takes some time,” he said. “For this situation, you know, this is still very raw ... providing the means of contact is still an immediate concern.”

As for putting Lewin’s courses back up in the future? “From my point of view, it’s not excluded,” Fisher said.

MIT’s Title IX Student Working Group said it supported MIT’s actions. “By taking down the videos and material that MIT has control over, MIT is saying to the world that sexual harassment is unacceptable in our community,” the group wrote in a blog post.

Yet Fisher and Rajagopal bristled at the suggestion that MIT wanted to make a statement about sexual harassment or was worried about what the public would think.

“I think if you look at how it has been received and you add up how it’s been received in all quarters from all who’ve commented,” Rajagopal said, “I don’t think you could conclude that it was done because of how it would look.”

Fisher said: “When you’re in the middle of one of these things ... how it’s going to look down the road outside is really far from what you’re thinking about. What you’re thinking about is, my god, what’s going on here? Who is being hurt by this?”

“You know, [Lewin is] now not part of the community, and that’s a loss too. There just aren’t a lot of winners in this whole thing. It’s really very sad.”

Attention MIT Undergraduates!

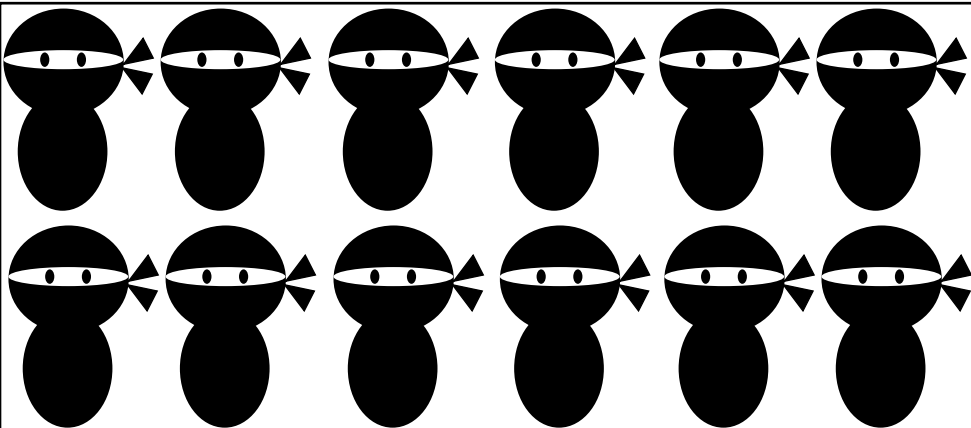
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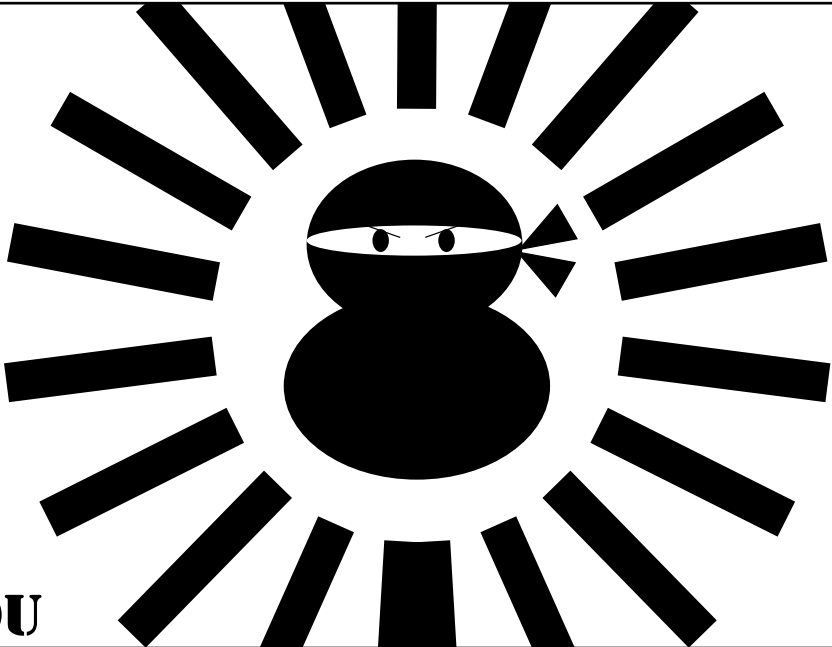
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Broad Institute analyzes Ebola genomes

At the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, in a lab run by accomplished computational geneticist Pardis Sabeti '97, researchers have collaborated with institutions in the U.S. and abroad to sequence and analyze more than 99 Ebola virus genomes collected by fellow scientists in Sierra Leone. They are on the lookout for mutations that could aid in developing new treatment options for Ebola, or that could serve as indications that the virus is evolving to become more deadly.

Contained within the virus's 19,000 base-pair genome, the team has found more than 300 genetic changes that separate the 2014 Ebola virus from its predecessors. Of interest is one particular cluster of mutations which, having outlasted other genetic variations, could possibly be conferring some sort of genetic advantage to the virus.

Sabeti's team has been researching Ebola and the similar Lassa fever virus in West Africa for years, working closely with the Kenema Government Hospital in Sierra Leone. When they were informed of Ebola's presence in the city, they were quick to provide technical assistance to their African colleagues

and obtain blood samples from Ebola patients for sequencing.

The team's results were reported online in the journal *Science*, but were also made available before publication on the National Center for Biotechnical Information's DNA sequence database. According to the Broad Institute's website, the team hopes to accelerate response efforts by making the data available to the scientific community.

Five of the African coauthors of the *Science* paper died after they contracted the virus themselves, among them Dr. Humarr Khan, head of the Kenema hospital's Lassa program.

On the Broad Institute's website, Sabeti wrote, "There is an extraordinary battle still ahead, and we have lost many friends and colleagues already ... transparency and partnership is one way we hope to honor Humarr's legacy."

Although the rate of Ebola transmission in West Africa appears to have leveled off, the virus is not yet contained, with around 360 new cases being reported in the first week of January according to the World Health Organization.

—Jennifer F. Switzer

MIT Climate Conversation Committee Spring Event Series

One Man's Journey to Climate Activism A Talk with Dr. Larry Linden

Wednesday January 21st 2015 | 3:30pm-5:00pm
MIT Kirsch Auditorium 32-123, Reception to follow



Join the MIT Climate Change Conversation with a talk by Dr. Larry Linden, MIT alum and former General Partner and Managing Director of Goldman Sachs. From growing up in smog-filled Los Angeles, to MIT, the White House, and then a career on Wall Street, Dr. Linden describes the experiences and transformation that brought him to launch an effort to move the politics of climate change in the United States. The Linden Trust for Conservation is seeking to advance a national conversation on the use of a revenue-neutral carbon tax to minimize greenhouse gas emissions, a centrist concept with the potential to draw bipartisan support.

Describing lessons learned on the role of science in regulation, government technology policy, and financial risk management, his insights are both personal and global as they apply to our individual and collective ability to make a difference in one of the 21st century's most pressing challenges.

About Dr. Linden

Dr. Larry Linden leads the Linden Trust for Conservation, founded in 2006 to bring state-of-the art skills in finance and markets to the environmental community. The Trust is currently focused on the establishment of market-based solutions for the control of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. Larry is a former General Partner and Managing Director at Goldman Sachs, where he launched the firm's first environmental policy, and has also served as Partner at McKinsey & Co. and on the White House Staff in the Carter Administration coordinating technology policy development for the transportation, energy sectors and environmental protection. He has served as Board Chair for the World Wildlife Fund and Resources for the Future and is a member of the Board of Directors of TIAA and advisor to the Redstone Strategy Group and New World Capital Group. Dr. Linden holds a PhD from MIT and a BSE from Princeton.

Climate Change Conversation Event Series

The MIT Climate Conversation Committee is sponsoring a series of events in Spring 2015 to engage the MIT community on the role and innovation potential for the Institute to address climate change. To learn more about the conversation and upcoming events visit climatechange.mit.edu, and join the conversation with the following opportunities:

- Submit your ideas to the [Climate Change Conversation Idea Bank](http://ClimateChangeConversationIdeaBank) to shape how MIT addresses climate change on campus and across education, research, and beyond
- Follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/MITClimateChangeConversation](https://www.facebook.com/MITClimateChangeConversation)
- Follow us on Twitter [@climatetalkMIT](https://twitter.com/climatetalkMIT)

For more information, please contact: Climate Committee Chair, Roman Stocker, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, romans@mit.edu or Sarah Brylinsky, Office of Sustainability, sbrylins@mit.edu

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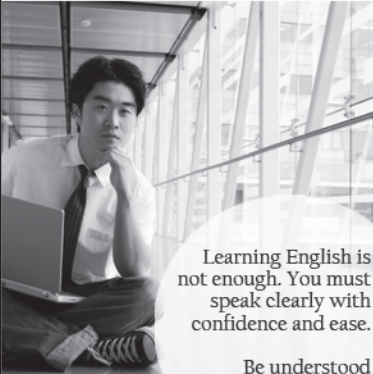
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